(a) the amount spent so far on the four-laning of the Cuttack-Bhubaneswar section of the National Highway No. 5;

(b) the progress made in the construction work; and

(c) the target date fixed for the completion of the four-laning project?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) The amount spent is approximately Rs. 87.58 crores upto June, 1997;

(b) About 30% upto June, 1997;

(c) December, 1999.

Guidelines for construction of houses under Indira Awas Yojana

*113. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to alter the terms of finances of the Indira Awas Yojana;

(b) if so, whether such changes have been effected;

(c) whether any new guidelines have been issued for the technology to be used for construction of houses under the Yojana; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. YERANNAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) In view of (a) above, question does not arise.

(c) and (d) As per Indira Awas Yojana guidelines and instructions issued from time to time, efforts should be made to utilise to the maximum extent local materials, cost effective techniques and low cost technologies developed by various institutions.

Violation of Indian Air-space

*114. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistani Air Force planes have of late been violating Indian air space more frequently;

(b) the details of such air-violations during the last six months and the comparative figures and details for the preceding two spells of six months each; and

(c) Government's reaction to the frequent air-violations by Pak Air Force aircrats?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) The details of such air violations indicate that there were 2 incidents of violations of Indian air-space by aircraft identified as those from Pakistan between 1st January to 30th June, 1997 as against 5 & 4 for the preceding two spells of six months each respectively.

(c) All the cases of air violations are taken-up appropriately, with the Government of Pakistan through diplomatic channels.

Officials Secrets Act

*115. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state whether the United Front Government have set-up a panel to submit a series of recommendations which are expected to make the Official Secrets Act less restrictive and Government functioning more transparent?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): A Working Group on "Right to Information and Promotion of Open and Transparent Government" was set-up by the Central Government under the Chairmanship of Shri H.D. Shourie, Chairman Common Cause. The Group which submitted its report in May, 1997, has